

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Houghton et al.

Serial No.: to be assigned

Filed: herewith

For: METHODS AND REAGENTS FOR GENETIC IMMUNIZATION

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Asst. Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Preliminary to the calculation of fees for the application filed herewith,  
please make the following amendments:

In the specification:

Page 1, before line 1, insert a new paragraph as follows:

--This application is a continuation of US Patent Application No.  
09/230,199, which is a section 371 of International Patent Application No.  
PCT/US97/12675, filed July 18, 1997, which claims the benefit from US Provisional  
Application No. 60/022,710, filed July 26, 1996.--

Please insert the paper sequence listing, which is attached, into the  
application at the appropriate location.

In the claims:

Please cancel claims 1- 20 and add claims 21-24 as follows:

21. A vaccine for genetic immunization to elicit an immune response against a target antigen comprising a nucleic acid construct comprising:

(a) an antigen-coding region encoding an antigenic protein or peptide;

and

(b) a sorting signal encoding a protein or peptide which acts as a sorting signal to direct intracellular transport of the protein or peptide into the endosomes or the endoplasmic reticulum of a cell, wherein the nucleic acid construct is effective to elicit an immune response against the target antigen when administered to a subject individual.

22. The vaccine of claim 21, wherein the nucleic acid construct is packaged in a liposome.

23. The vaccine of claim 21, wherein the nucleic acid construct is coated on a colloidal gold particle.

24. The vaccine of claim 21, wherein the nucleic acid construct is incorporated into a viral expression vector.

REMARKS

This continuation is filed to continue prosecution of subject matter which was cancelled from the parent case, without prejudice, to secure allowance of the remaining claims. No new matter has been added.

Applicants enclose a sequence diskette and a paper copy of the diskette.  
The undersigned certifies that the content of the sequence diskette is the same as that of  
the paper sequence listing supplied herewith.

Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosures